

### STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING



#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: LEA and ISD Superintendents and Principals

Public School Academy Directors and Authorizers

FROM: Jeremy M. Hughes, Ph.D.

Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

DATE: April 9, 2007

SUBJECT: Taiwan - Chinese Language Teacher Program

In March 2006, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Education in Taiwan by which up to 15 experienced and/or newly certified Michigan elementary teachers were given the opportunity to study and teach in Taiwanese schools for a full academic year. This collaboration has reaped many successes this past year and we are anticipating even greater success in future years. Four Michigan teachers are currently residing in Taiwan and teaching English to elementary students. These teachers, upon their return to Michigan elementary schools, will bring with them to their Michigan classrooms a cultural awareness and knowledge that cannot be measured. Please share this opportunity with teachers in your building(s) as well as any other Michigan elementary certified teacher that may be interested. More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/teacherexchange">www.michigan.gov/teacherexchange</a>.

The next step in this collaboration is to begin the recruitment of teachers from Taiwan to teach Chinese to Michigan students. With Michigan's focus on foreign language graduation requirements, internationalizing education and the global economy, this couldn't have come at a better time. School districts interested in hiring teachers from Taiwan should contact MDE immediately to begin the process.

We have also learned that the Ministry of Education in Taiwan will be inviting 20 school administrators from the United States to Taiwan for a visit from July 6 to 14, 2007. They have extended this invitation to principals or superintendents that have had an integral role in establishing Chinese language programs, or that plan to in the near future. At present, they hope to invite three participants from our state. The Ministry will cover the expenses of roundtrip airfare and accommodations for the week. During the trip, administrators will visit university language training centers and public schools, as well as learn about Chinese language teaching materials and software. Of course, there will also be a chance to do some sight-seeing, sample a variety of Taiwan's excellent cuisine and generally learn about its culture.

Please send the attached application and information document by mail or fax (517-373-0542) to MDE no later than April 12, 2007. Contact Krista D. Ried, Education Consultant, at 517-373-0699 for more information.

#### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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#### Taiwan – Chinese Language Teacher Program

#### **APPLICATION & INFORMATION REQUEST**



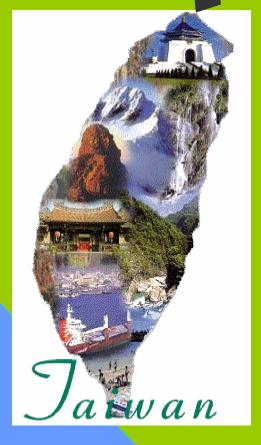
Applications for the July administrator visit to Taiwan must be received at the following address (or by fax) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 12, 2007:

Michigan Department of Education Attn: Krista D. Ried Office of Professional Preparation Services 608 W. Allegan St. P.O. Box 30008 Lansing, Michigan 48909

Fax: 517-373-0542 ☐ I am interested in becoming a "Sister School" with a school in Taiwan. ☐ I am interested in recruiting a teacher from Taiwan to teach Chinese in my school. (select level) o Elementary level Secondary level ☐ I am interested in participating in the administrator visit to Taiwan from July 6 to July 14, 2007 (dates are tentative). Describe your Chinese Language Program or plan: (attach additional sheets if necessary) Administrator's Name: District/School/PSA: Phone number:

## TEACHING IN

# TANAN



If you love teaching, have the desire to visit another country, enjoy learning new cultures, and are willing to accept a challenge, then the Teaching in Taiwan Program may just be for you.

Michigan Elementary Certified teachers of any experience level have a unique opportunity to teach abroad in Taiwan through a program with the Michigan Department of Education.

For applications or more information, please visit the Teaching in Taiwan website at: http://www.michigan.gov/teacherexchange

Application deadline is April 27, 2007

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For more information, please contact: Krista Ried Michigan Department of Education 517-373-0699 riedk@michigan.gov